
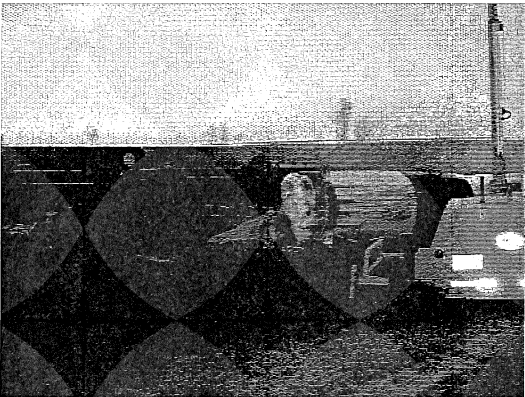


United States Environmental Protection Agency 

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Clara City Train Derailment

Clara City, MN - EPA Region V
NRC#: 852936

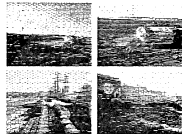


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POLREPs
[POLREP - 2](#)
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None for this site.

At approximately 0330 hours on October 29, 2007, a railroad tanker car carrying hydrochloric acid struck a parked train and derailed in Clara City, Minnesota, a town of about 1,400 people. The derailment caused a four foot gash in the side of the tanker car causing the hydrochloric acid (HCL) to release. The immediate area around the HCL spill is primarily agricultural.

As a precaution, a nursing home with approximately 65 residents and 1/3 of the town (300-400 people) were evacuated from the area to prevent exposure to any hydrochloric acid vapors resulting from the HCL tank car release. The evacuees are sheltered in a church approximately 7 blocks east of the derailment site. No injuries were reported. The Minnesota Department of Transportation reports that State highways 7 and 23 have been closed.

The St. Paul Fire Department and Minnesota Department of Homeland Security hazmat teams are on-scene. A variety of neutralizing agents have been ordered and are arriving in a staging area at the scene and at the Donner Truck Stop at the intersection of state highways 2 and 23. The wind is blowing from the south and Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) air monitoring at the scene indicates less than 1 ppm HCL.

At the request of the MPCA, U.S. EPA and its START contractor are enroute to provide air monitoring support at the incident. ATSDR has been consulted.

For additional information, visit the **Pollution Report (POLREPs)** and the **Bulletins** sections.

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